

House Bill 5372, An Act Concerning Dyslexia Instruction Offered in Teacher Preparation Programs

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My name is Jane Thielen I live in Sherman, Connecticut. I fully support HB 5372 An Act Concerning Dyslexia Instruction Offered in Teacher Preparation Programs.

My daughter is in 5th grade, we have been struggling since kindergarten. She's a bright girl but just learns differently. She started in kindergarten wanting to be a librarian, she loved books so much but when they started to work on sounds and learning to read she hated school, cried a lot and did not want to go. For the first few years, there was no label. Once we knew it was dyslexia it was helpful but the teachers at the school were not prepared to provide the type of education she needed. Every outside specialist we took her to said she was working so very hard but not making the progress she should be making. There have been countless meetings, tests, emails, phone calls and such. We spend so much time pushing for access to the proper teachers, programs, technology, and general understanding of her needs while she is at school. The bottom line is there needs to be more specific education to help administrators and teachers understand dyslexia and how to best teach children with dyslexia. The teachers at the school are very kind but not properly educated to help close the gap in her reading, writing, and spelling. My daughter, as with most dyslexic children, is quite bright but if these children do not have an opportunity to feel smart they are not able to live up to their potential.

Respectfully-

Jane Thielen
Sherman, CT